

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An inventory management system configured for use in association with at least one container containing an amount of inventory material at a monitored location, the system comprising:

at least one measurement instrument operatively associated with the container, the measurement instrument being configured to generate at least one data signal representative of the amount of the inventory material in the container;

a telemetry unit in communication with the measurement instrument, the telemetry unit being configured to receive at least the generated data signal from the measurement instrument and to convert the generated data signal into inventory information;

a first server in communication with the telemetry unit, the first server configured to receive at least the inventory information from the telemetry unit; and

at least a second server in communication with the first server, the second server configured for receiving at least the inventory information from the first server via an Internet connection, the second server being configured to process the inventory information for presentation on at least one website.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the measurement instrument, the telemetry unit, and the first server are located at the monitored location.

3. The system of claim 1, wherein the second server is located at an inventory management location.

4. The system of claim 1, wherein the container comprises at least one of a tank, bin, silo, vessel and storage arrangement.

5. The system of claim 1, wherein the inventory material comprises at least one of a gas, liquid, agricultural product, food product, fabricated component, hardware, raw material and physical good.

6. The system of claim 1, wherein the measurement instrument comprises at least one of a thermocouple, ultrasonic sensor, pressure sensor, sound sensor, and radar sensor.

7. The system of claim 1, further comprising a communications link between the measurement instrument and the telemetry unit, wherein the communications link comprises at least one of a wireline communications link and a wireless communications link.

8. The system of claim 7, wherein the wireline communications link comprises an Ethernet connection.

9. The system of claim 7, wherein the wireless communication link comprises at least one of a radio frequency, IEEE 802.11 wireless LAN and Bluetooth technology.

10. The system of claim 1, further comprising a communications link between the telemetry unit and the first server, wherein the communications link comprises at least one of a wireline communications link and wireless communications link.

11. The system of claim 10, wherein the wireline communications link comprises an Ethernet connection.

12. The system of claim 10, wherein the wireless communication link comprises at least one of a radio frequency, IEEE 802.11 wireless LAN and Bluetooth technology.

13. The system of claim 1, wherein the inventory information comprises at least one of material identity, container level, inventory amount, inventory temperature, inventory flow rate, specific gravity, moisture content, weight, container specifications,

network specifications, usage information, delivery information, user information and workplace information.

14. The system of claim 1, wherein the website comprises at least one web page including at least one of a main menu, a weekly report, a daily report, an individual container report, a delivery entry, a delivery summary, a user administration menu and a container/location administration menu.

15. The system of claim 1, further comprising at least one of the servers being configured to process at least one of at least one message and at least one notification.

16. The system of claim 15, wherein the at least one notification comprises at least one of a delivery notification, an inventory level notification and a system alert.

17. The system of claim 15, wherein at least one of the message and the notification comprises an Extensible Markup Language (XML) message including the inventory information.

18. The system of claim 15, wherein at least one of the message and the notification comprises a Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP) message including the inventory information.

19. A method of monitoring inventory information associated with at least one container containing an amount of inventory material at a monitored location, the method comprising:

receiving in a measurement unit at least one generated data signal representative of the amount of the inventory material in the container;

transmitting the generated data signal to a telemetry unit in communication with the measurement instrument, the telemetry unit being configured to receive at least the generated data signal from the measurement instrument;

converting the generated data signal into inventory information;

transmitting the inventory information through an Internet network connection to at least one server associated with a inventory management location; and
serving at least one web page including at least a portion of the inventory information.

20. A computer-readable medium including instructions for performing a method of monitoring inventory information associated with at least one container containing an amount of inventory material at a monitored location, the computer-readable medium comprising:

instructions for receiving in a measurement unit at least one generated data signal representative of the amount of the inventory material in the container;

instructions for transmitting the generated data signal to a telemetry unit in communication with the measurement instrument, the telemetry unit being configured to receive at least the generated data signal from the measurement instrument;

instructions for converting the generated data signal into inventory information;

instructions for transmitting the inventory information through an Internet network connection to at least one server associated with a inventory management location; and

instructions for serving at least one web page including at least a portion of the inventory information.

21. An inventory management system configured for use in association with at least one container containing an amount of inventory material at a monitored location, the system comprising:

at least a first server in communication with the monitored location, the first server configured for receiving at least inventory information from the monitored location via an Internet connection, the first server being configured to process the inventory information for presentation on at least one website; and,

wherein the inventory information includes generated data representative of the amount of the inventory material in the container.